

WJLA/NC8 - FCC REPORT

JAN. 2018 – MAR. 2018

CRIME & VIOLENCE

1/2

GOOD NEWS IN THE DISTRICT. NEW STATISTICS SHOWING A DROP IN CRIME IN 2017. TODAY, MAYOR MURIEL BOWER AND DC POLICE CHEIF PETER NEWSHAM WILL HIGHLIGHT THE DECLINE IN A NEWS CONFERENCE SET FOR ELEVEN A-M. NOW FOR A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS: VIOLENT CRIME IS DOWN 23 PERCENT.. WHILE PROPERTY CRIME IS DOWN NINE PERCENT. NUMBERS ARE DOWN IN EVERY OTHER CATEGORY EXCEPT FOR THEFTS WHICH STAYED THE SAME AS 2016 OVERALL - CRIME IN THE DISTRICT IS DOWN 14 PERCENT FROM 2014.

1/12

POLICE IN BALTIMORE COUNTY ARE LOOKING FOR THE MAN WHO PLACED A SPY CAMERA IN A FAMILY RESTROOM AT THE WHITE MARSH MALL.

SOMEONE FOUND THE CAMERA AND A MEMORY CARD IN A BATHROOM NEAR THE FOOD COURT ON DECEMBER 23RD. INVESTIGATORS SAY AMONG THE IMAGES RECORDED WAS ONE OF THE SUSPECT INSTALLING THE CAMERA. ANYONE WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE CASE IS ASKED TO CONTACT BALTIMORE COUNTY POLICE.

1/17

NOW TO A CRIME ALERT AT A BANK, JUST STEPS FROM AN ARLINGTON METRO STATION. POLICE SAY THEY FOUND A SKIMMER DEVICE ON AN A-T-M NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO THE CLARENDON STATION. THEY FOUND IT LAST FRIDAY, AND DON'T THINK IT WAS THERE FOR LONG.. BUT IF YOU USE ANY BANKS OR A-T-M'S IN THAT AREA, YOU'RE URGED TO KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON YOUR ACCOUNTS.

1/25

DEVELOPING NOW IN FAIRFAIX COUNTY. NEW CALLS FOR JUSTICE AS POLICE RELEASE CHILLING DASHCAM VIDEO OF U-S PARK POLICE OFFICERS OPENING FIRE ON AN UNARMED MAN. The VIDEO SHOWS PARK POLICE FIRING NINE SHOTS AT "BIJAN GHASAR (gay-sar)" AS HE FLED FROM OFFICERS. FOUR HIT HIS HEAD AND ONE HIT HIS WRIST. FAMILY ATTORNEY "ROY AUSTIN" SAYS GHASAR WAS NOT ARMED, AND HIS ONLY CRIME WAS FLEEING THE SCENE OF A NEARBY FENDER BENDER. THE FAMILY DEMANDING TO KNOW WHY OFFICERS USED DEADLY FORCE.

2/1

A CONTROVERSIAL NEW PUSH -- TO ALLOW SCHOOL EMPLOYEES TO CARRY GUNS IN MARYLAND. REPUBLICAN DELEGATE RICK IMPALLARIA FILED A BILL THIS WEEK...THAT WOULD LET SCHOOLS DECIDE TO LET SOME EMPLOYEES HAVE WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY. IMPALLARIA -- POINTING TO ACTS OF VIOLENCE AT SCHOOLS IN HIS BALTIMORE-AREA DISTRICT... THAT HE SAYS ARE GETTING WORSE.

2/6

SEVEN'S ON YOUR SIDE TONIGHT WITH A WARNING ABOUT A VIRAL VIDEO YOU *DON'T WANT TO SEE. A VIDEO CONTAINING *CHILD PORN -- BEING SENT IN FACEBOOK MESSAGES! MARYLAND STATE POLICE SAY IF YOU GET THE VIDEO... DON'T SHARE IT... OR YOU'LL BE COMMITTING A CRIME! THAT MAY SEEM OBVIOUS -- BUT SOME PEOPLE THINK SHARING IT COULD HELP IDENTIFY THE SUSPECT. OFFICIALS ARE REMINDING YOU -- DON'T OPEN ATTACHMENTS OR CLICK ON LINKS FROM PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW.

2/16

A VIOLENT MORNING IN D-C --- POLICE ARE NOW WORKING THREE DIFFERENT CRIME SCENES. THE FIRST SHOOTING HAPPENING ON HAYES STREET JUST BEFORE 1 THIS MORNING. TWO MEN WERE SHOT -- AND THEN THE VICTIMS WALKED INTO A HOSPITAL IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. LESS THAN AN HOUR LATER A LARGE CRIME SCENE ON 7TH STREET SE --- AFTER A MAN WAS FOUND UNCONSCIOUS AND NOT BREATHING AFTER BEING SHOT...AND A JUVENILE WAS ALSO HIT...BUT IS BELIEVED TO BE OK. AND AROUND 2:30 -- ONE MAN WAS ALSO SHOT ON 7TH STREET IN SOUTHEAST. POLICE SEARCHING FOR THREE MEN WITH BLACK MASKS. THERE HAVE BEEN NO ARRESTS IN ANY OF THESE SHOOTINGS... AND RIGHT NOW IT'S UNCLEAR IF THEY ARE CONNECTED.

2/26

NEW WORD OVERNIGHT OUT OF ANNE ARUNDEL. POLICE HUNTING FOR SUSPECTS, AFTER A SCHOOL IS THREATENED ONLINE. A POST SURFACED ONLINE, THREATENING VIOLENCE AT NORTHEAST HIGH SCHOOL. THAT'S IN PASADENA, MARYLAND. RIGHT NOW SCHOOL OFFICIALS SAY NORTHEAST HIGH *WILL OPEN AS NORMAL TODAY -- BUT POLICE ARE ACTIVELY INVESTIGATING. WE HAVE MORE ON THAT INVESTIGATION COMING UP IN ABOUT 10 MINUTES.

3/1

GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN HAS A 125-MILLION DOLLAR PLAN AIMED AT PREVENTING GUN VIOLENCE IN MARYLAND SCHOOLS. HE WANTS TO IMPROVE BUILDING SAFETY BY SECURING DOORS AND WINDOWS, AND ADDING METAL DETECTORS AND PANIC BUTTONS. HOGAN'S PROPOSAL WOULD ALSO ADDRESS BEHAVIORAL THREATS.. AND INCLUDES A PLAN OF ACTION IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY. HOGAN SAYS HE'S AGAINST ARMING TEACHERS.. AND SUPPORTS BANNING BUMP STOCKS.

3/9

METRO IS BRACING FOR WHAT *COULD BE... A DAY OF RECORD RIDERSHIP. THE "MARCH FOR OUR LIVES" AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE... IS COMING UP ON MARCH 24TH. BUT THAT'S ALSO WHEN THE CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL WILL BE GOING ON... WITH SOME TREES STILL AT PEAK BLOOM. TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE GETS WHERE THEY'RE GOING AND QUICKLY, THE TRANSIT SERVICE SAYS IT WILL RUN RUSH-HOUR SERVICE ALL DAY- WITH PEAK FARES IN EFFECT. COOLERS, BIKES, AND OTHER LARGE ITEMS WILL BE BANNED THAT DAY... AND YOU'LL PAY TWO DOLLARS TO PARK IN METRO LOTS.

3/20

DISTURBING CHARGES TONIGHT AGAINST AN ALEXANDRIA POLICE OFFICER. HE'S ACCUSED OF DOMESTIC ABUSE - AND RAPE. PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY POLICE ARRESTED KHURRAM CHAUDHARY OVER THE WEEKEND. THEY SAY HE HAS A PATTERN OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-- INCLUDING THREATENING THE VICTIM WITH A KNIFE AND BURNING HER WITH A CHEMICAL. HE IS A FOUR-YEAR VETERAN OF THE ALEXANDRIA POLICE DEPARTMENT. TONIGHT HE'S HELD WITHOUT BOND.

3/23

IN WICOMICO COUNTY-- DOZENS OF HORSES-- FOUND DEAD ON A FARM. A NEIGHBOR SAYS SHE WALKED BY THE PROPERTY AND FOUND A SMALL DEAD HORSE. THAT LEAD OFFICIALS TO FIND AT LEAST 25 HORSES DEAD. AUTOSPIES WILL REVEAL IF THERE WAS ANY CRIME COMMITTED THE OWNER OF THAT FARM-- KNOWN TO NEIGHBORS-- ANIMAL CONTROL, AND LOCAL OFFICIALS --HAS FACED ALMOST 100 CHARGES *BEFORE FOR ANIMAL CRUELTY-- BUT BARBARA PILCHARD WAS NEVER PROSECUTED. NEIGHBORS HOPE THE 100-OR-SO HORSES THAT REMAIN, WILL FIND OTHER HOMES.

1/9

THE D-C COUNCIL GIVING INITIAL APPROVAL TO PUBLIC FINANCING OF POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS. THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS. UNDER THE "FAIR ELECTIONS ACT" -- FOR EVERY DOLLAR A QUALIFYING CANDIDATE RAISES FROM SMALL DONORS -- THE CITY WOULD CONTRIBUTE FIVE-DOLLARS TO THEIR CAMPAIGN. THE D-C COUNCIL GIVING INITIAL APPROVAL TO PUBLIC FINANCING OF POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS. THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS. UNDER THE "FAIR ELECTIONS ACT" -- FOR EVERY DOLLAR A QUALIFYING CANDIDATE RAISES FROM SMALL DONORS -- THE CITY WOULD CONTRIBUTE FIVE-DOLLARS TO THEIR CAMPAIGN.

1/19

DEVELOPING NOW... VIRGINIA DELEGATE CHRIS HURST SAYS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS CONSIDERING A BILL THAT WOULD HAVE SAVED HIS GIRLFRIEND'S LIFE. IT WOULD PREVENT A JOB CANDIDATE FROM SUING EMPLOYERS FOR SHARING DETAILS ABOUT PAST VIOLENT BEHAVIOR. HURST WAS A NEWS ANCHOR WHEN HIS GIRLFRIEND, REPORTER ALISON PARKER AND HER PHOTOGRAPHER, WERE KILLED BY A FORMER CO-WORKER IN 2015. THE STATION WAS UNAWARE OF THE GUNMAN'S HISTORY WHEN HE WAS HIRED.

1/23

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL IS TAKING ACTION TO STOP DEATHS ON WHAT SOME CALL ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS STRETCHES OF HIGHWAY IN MARYLAND. THE COUNCIL SENT A LETTER TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING A PROPOSED "SPEED MONITORING SYSTEM" ON INDIAN HEAD HIGHWAY. SOME 60 PEOPLE HAVE DIED IN CRASHES ALONG THE HIGHWAY SINCE 2007.

2/7

A HEARING IS SET FOR TONIGHT ON A REQUEST TO OPEN A "TACO BELL CANTINA"... THAT WOULD SERVE WINE AND BEER... IN OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA. TACO BELL HAS APPLIED FOR A PERMIT AT 417 KING STREET. THAT'S THE FORMER LOCATION OF THE PENDLETON STORE. THE RESTAURANT WOULD SERVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, IN ADDITION TO THE REGULAR MENU ITEMS. TONIGHT'S HEARING IS SCHEDULED FOR SEVEN.. IN CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

2/12

MARYLAND WORKERS ARE NOW ELIGIBLE FOR PAID SICK LEAVE. A NEW LAW WILL REQUIRE BUSINESSES WITH 15 OR MORE EMPLOYEES TO PROVIDE UP TO FIVE EARNED SICK DAYS. IT WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY... BUT PUSHED BACK BY GOVERNOR HOGAN. HE SAYS IT WILL HURT SMALL BUSINESSES.

2/14

NEW THIS MORNING.. THE LATEST ON A BILL THAT WOULD ALLOW SPEED CAMERAS IN VIRGINIA SCHOOL ZONES FOR THE FIRST TIME.. THE STATE SENATE NARROWLY PASSED THE BILL.. 22-to-18. UNDER THE MEASURE, THE CAMERAS WOULD HAVE TO BE HANDHELD, AND OPERATED BY A POLICE OFFICER. IN ADDITION, WARNING SIGNS WOULD NEED TO BE POSTED THAT CAMERAS ARE IN USE.

2/15

LONG OPPOSED BY REPUBLICANS IN THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY... DEMOCRATS' CHANCES OF EXPANDING MEDICAID IN THE STATE GOT A BIG BOOST TODAY. REPUBLICAN DELEGATE TERRY KILGORE SAID HE NOW SUPPORTS EXPANSION. GOVERNOR RALPH NORTHAM IS PUSHING FOR GREATER MEDICAID ACCESS -- AND HAS SAID HE MIGHT BE OPEN TO WORK REQUIREMENTS FOR ABLE-BODIED ADULTS IN ORDER TO GAIN REPUBLICAN SUPPORT.

2/27

SOME MEMBERS OF THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY ARE PUSHING FOR DIAPER CHANGING FACILITIES IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS. TODAY, A SENATE COMMITTEE HELD A HEARING A BILL REQUIRING AT LEAST ONE GENDER-NEUTRAL CHANGING FACILITY IN EVERY STATE-OWNED BUILDING. A SIMILAR BILL IS WORKING ITS WAY THROUGH THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

3/5

IF YOU LIVE IN VIRGINIA, YOU MAY BE A STEP CLOSER TO HAVING IMPROVED WIRELESS ACCESS. THE STATE SENATE PASSED A BILL THAT WOULD IMPROVE WIRELESS ACCESS AND SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE STATE. THE BILL WOULD ALLOW WIRELESS TOWERS SHORTER THAN 50 FEET TO BE INSTALLED WITHOUT REQUIRING COMPANIES TO GET LOCAL APPROVAL. CRITICS OF THE BILL SAY THERE'S NOTHING IN IT THAT WOULD EXPAND WIRELESS ACCESS TO "RURAL" AREAS OF VIRGINIA. IT'S UNCLEAR IF THE GOVERNOR WOULD SIGN THE BILL.

3/12

METRO MAY BE GETTING SOME MAJOR HELP. THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS AGREED TO INVEST 154-MILLION DOLLARS IN THE TRANSIT AGENCY.. EACH YEAR. THE MONEY IS MEANT TO RETURN THE METRO SYSTEM TO A STATE OF GOOD REPAIR.. AND IMPROVE ITS SERVICE AND RELIABILITY. EVERY RIDER WE SPOKE WITH ALSO WANTS METRO TO USE THE MONEY TO EXTEND OPERATION HOURS. GOVERNOR RALPH NORTHAM CALLS THIS A HISTORIC AGREEMENT. BUT THERE IS A CATCH. IT WILL HAPPEN ONLY ON THE CONDITION THAT MARYLAND AND D.C. MAKE SOMEWHAT BIGGER CONTRIBUTIONS. THEY APPEAR ON TRACK TOWARD APPROVING THAT FUNDING.

3/27

MARYLAND LAWMAKERS THINK ORGAN DONORS DESERVE A TAX BREAK! THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS PASSED A BILL THAT WOULD ALLOW LIVING ORGAN OR BONE MARROW DONORS -- TO SUBTRACT UP TO 75-HUNDRED DOLLARS IN INCOME ON THEIR TAXES. IT'S TO HELP OFFSET THEIR DONATION EXPENSES.

THE BILL IS SPONSORED BY SPEAKER MICHAEL BUSCH -- WHO JUST LAST YEAR, GOT A TRANSPLANT FROM HIS SISTER... SAVING HIS LIFE. GOVERNOR HOGAN SAYS HE DOES PLAN TO SIGN THE BILL INTO LAW.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

1/8

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS. D-C POLICE SHARED THESE IMAGES -OF NINE POUNDS OF POT... MAILED TO THE WRONG ADDRESS. POLICE SAY THE MAN WHO GOT THE DRUGS - CALLED THEM IMMEDIATELY. THEN WHEN SOMEONE ASKED HIM ABOUT THE POT... HE SET UP A MEETING TO "RETRIEVE IT." THAT MEETING - WAS ACTUALLY WITH POLICE... WHO QUICKLY MADE AN ARREST.

1/8

NEW DEVELOPMENTS -- IN THE DEATH OF A MONTGOMERY COUNTY TEEN. POLICE NOW SAY NAVID SEPEHRI HAD TWO FAKE I-DS AND A BOTTLE OF VODKA ON HIM WHEN HE DIED. THE 17-YEAR-OLD DIED OF ALCOHOL POISONING, DROWNING AND HYPOTHERMIA LAST MONTH AFTER A HOUSE PARTY. OFFICERS SPOKE TO SEPEHRI THAT NIGHT... BUT LET HIM GO AFTER THE TEENS HE WAS WITH SAID HIS PARENTS WERE PICKING HIM UP.

1/17

A LEADING SCIENCE PANEL IS RECOMMENDING STATES LOWER THEIR BLOOD-ALCOHOL LIMITS FROM POINT-OH-EIGHT TO POINT-OH-FIVE. THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES, ENGINEERING AND MEDICINE SAYS THE CHANGE WOULD HELP ELIMINATE NEARLY ALL DRUNK-DRIVING DEATHS IN THE U-S. A 120-POUND WOMAN WOULD EXCEED THE PROPOSED LIMIT AFTER A SINGLE DRINK... WHILE IT WOULD TAKE TWO-BEERS FOR A 150-POUND MAN TO BE LEGALLY DRUNK.

1/24

DEVELOPING NOW- POLICE CREDITING A STOLEN DIRT BIKE FOR A MAJOR DRUG BUST IN HOWARD COUNTY. POLICE SAY THEY WERE SEARCHING FOR A STOLEN DIRT BIKE WHEN THEY EXECUTED A SEARCH WARRANT IN COLUMBIA. INSIDE-- THEY FOUND THE BIKE ALONG WITH MARIJUANA, AMMUNITION, AND 70 VIALS OF CRACK COCAINE. THE SUSPECT, 19 YEAR-OLD DESHAWN REED, IS NOW OUT ON BAIL, AND SAYS HE'S INNOCENT.

2/1

THE ARMY IS WARNING SERVICE MEMBERS ON THE DANGERS OF VAPING. IN THE PAST MONTH, DOZENS OF SOLDIERS SUFFERED HEADACHES, NAUSEA AND OTHER SIDE EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH SYNTHETIC CANNA-BIN-OID OIL. THE ARMY ADVISED SOLDIERS NOT TO USE ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES OR VAPORIZER PENS CONTAINING C-B-D OIL. THE OILS ARE NOT ILLEGAL, BUT ARE UN-REGULATED

2/5

TONIGHT, A HAGERSTOWN POLICE OFFICER.. ACCUSED OF STEALING PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FROM CITIZENS. POLICE ARRESTED CHRISTOPHER BARNETT LAST NIGHT. THEY SAY HE LIED TO GET INTO AN APARTMENT...

SWIPED OPIOIDS - AND PLANNED TO RE-SELL THEM. A CAREGIVER... SHOT VIDEO OF BARNETT TELLING HER NOT TO TELL ANYONE ABOUT IT. BARNETT, A 15-YEAR VETERAN, IS SUSPENDED WITHOUT PAY.

2/13

MORE ACTION TODAY AFTER A 7 ON YOUR SIDE INVESTIGATION THAT EXPOSED THE EUTHANASIA DRUG, PENTO-BARBITAL, IN "GRAVY TRAIN" PET FOOD. SENIOR INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER, LISA FLETCHER, BROKE THIS STORY, WHICH LAUNCHED AN F-D-A INVESTIGATION. NOW, A CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT HAS BEEN FILED IN CALIFORNIA - AGAINST "BIG HEART BRANDS". THAT'S THE COMPANY THAT MAKES GRAVY TRAIN AND IS OWNED BY SMUCKERS. THE SUIT CLAIMS THE COMPANY, "KNOWINGLY, ECKLESSLY AND/OR NEGLIGENTLY IS SELLING CONTAMINATED DOG FOOD CONTAINING PENTO-BARBITAL, A SUBSTANCE LARGELY USED TO EUTHANIZE ANIMALS." IT WOULD BE ILLEGAL FOR PENTO-BARBITAL TO BE USED ON ANIMALS INTENDED FOR FOOD. SO WHERE IS IT COMING FROM?

3/8

RIGHT NOW... MARYLAND GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN IS TESIFYING ON CAPITOL HILL ON THE OPIOID CRISIS. HOGAN TOLD SENATORS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO INCREASE FUNDING TO FIGHT THE EPIDEMIC -- AND TIGHTEN RULES GOVERNING OPIOID DISTRIBUTION. MARYLAND SAW MORE THAN 15-HUNDRED OPIOID-RELATED DEATHS BETWEEN JANUARY AND SEPTEMBER OF LAST YEAR. OF THOSE, THE VAST MAJORITY INVOLVED FENTANYL.

3/14

THIS JUST IN ...THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA -- SUING DRUG MANUFACTURERS ABOUT THE OPIOID CRISIS IN AMERICA. THAT LAWSUIT -- AND ONE BY DICKENSON COUNTY -- THE FIRST OF THEIR KIND IN VIRGINIA. THEY SEEK ALMOST 150 MILLION DOLLARS IN DAMAGES. WE'LL KEEP TRACK OF THOSE SUITS -- AS THEY MOVE THROUGH THE COURTS.

3/16

TODAY.. THE WASHINGTON REGIONAL ALCOHOL PROGRAM WILL LAUNCH ITS ST. PATRICK'S DAY SOBERRIDE CAMPAIGN. OFFICIALS WILL HOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE AT 11 THIS MORNING AT FADO IRISH PUB IN D.C.'S CHINATOWN NEIGHBORHOOD. THEY'LL ANNOUNCE THE OFFERING OF FREE SAFE RIDES ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY. THEY SAY THEY WANT TO KEEP DRUNK DRIVERS OFF THE ROAD.. AND PREVENT TRAFFIC FATALITIES.

3/31

A TRAFFIC STOP-- LEADS POLICE TO A BIG DRUG BUST! NOW A FAIRFAX COUNTY MAN IS FACING SEVERAL CHARGES. OFFICERS SAY THEY FOUND CASH, COCAINE AND OTHER DRUGS IN THE CAR. THEN AT HIS HOUSE - POLICE ALSO FOUND MORE THAN 43 THOUSAND DOLLARS AND EVEN MORE DRUGS. HE'S BEHIND BARS TONIGHT.

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

1/2

RIGHT NOW.. TWO CHILDHOOD FRIENDS FROM MONTGOMERY COUNTY ARE ON A MISSION TO HELP THE HOMLESS IN THIS FREEZING WEATHER. KENDALL HALEY AND DANIEL WILSON OWN THE CLOTHING LINE, "FADED AMBITION." THEY'VE DESIGNED SLEEPING BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS. THREE WEEKS AGO, THEY RAISED ENOUGH MONEY FOR 100 SLEEPING BAGS, THROUGH CROWDFUNDING. THEY'VE HANDED OUT DOZENS OF SLEEPING BAGS IN D.C. AND THEY'RE NOW URGING CELEBRITIES TO HELP THEM. THE TWO ENTREPRENEURS ARE USING THE HASHTAG "100 SLEEPING BAGS" AS PART OF THEIR SOCIAL MEDIA CHALLENGE. THEIR LONG-TERM GOAL IS TO HELP PROVIDE THE HOMELESS WITH OPPORTUNITIES.. THAT WILL KEEP THEM OFF THE STREETS.

1/10

D-C MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER IS CALLING HER "HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS" CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS. BOWSER SAID OVER THE PAST TWO MONTHS, 422-INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES HAVE SIGNED LEASES FOR HOUSING. SOME OF THOSE FAMILIES RECEIVED THE KEYS TO THEIR NEW HOMES TODAY.

1/23

COVERING METRO TONIGHT AND PLANS TO BUILD AROUND THE COLLEGE PARK STATION. THE MIXED-USE PROJECT WOULD INCLUDE RESIDENCES AND BUSINESSES -- RIGHT ACROSS FROM THE STATION'S ENTRANCE. IT WOULD REPLACE A PARK-AND-RIDE LOT -- BUT METRO SAYS IT BUILT A NEW GARAGE AT THE STATION 12 YEARS AGO TO ACCOUNT FOR DEVELOPING THAT LAND.

1/25

MEANWHILE, THE COST OF BORROWING... TO BUY A HOME, SPIKING AGAIN. MORTGAGE RATES SURGING BY MORE THAN A TENTH OF A PERCENT... AS INVESTORS EXPECT EVEN FASTER ECONOMIC GROWTH. THE AVERAGE 30-YEAR FIXED-RATE LOAN... IS AT 4-POINT-1-5 PERCENT. in just A WEEK, THE DIFFERENCE OVER THE LIFE OF THE SAME DEAL - COSTING THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS.

2/2

DON'T GIVE AMAZON TAX CREDITS... THAT'S THE FOCUS OF AN ONLINE CAMPAIGN URGING FINALISTS FOR THE HIGH-TECH COMPANY'S NEW HEADQUARTERS TO HOLD BACK. D.C., ORTHERN VIRGINIA, AND MONTGOMERY COUNTY ARE AMONG THE 20 FINALISTS FOR THE NEW HEADQUARTERS, H-Q-2. A LETTER POSTED ON THE PETITION WEBSITE, CHANGE-DOT-ORG, SAYS TAX GIVEWAYS OFFERED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ARE OFTEN COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. AND IT SAYS THE MONEY WOULD BE BETTER USED TO SUPPORT SCHOOLS, HOUSING PROGRAMS, JOB TRAINING, AND TRANSPORTATION.

2/6

HAPPENING TODAY... THE D-C COUNCIL PROPOSING NEW LEGISLATION THAT WOULD FURTHER RESTRICT HOW PROPERTY OWNERS CAN USE HOME-SHARING SITES SUCH AS AIR-B-N-B. THE BILL WOULD LIMIT HOSTS TO RENTING OUT ONE UNIT AT A TIME.. AND ONLY IN THEIR PERMANENT HOMES. BUT THE PROPOSAL'S BIG TARGET: PEOPLE WHO BUY COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES, AND LIST THE BUILDINGS' UNITS FOR SHORT-TERM RENTAL. COUNCILMEMBERS SAY THIS PRACTICE CUTS INTO THE CITY'S SUPPLY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

2/20

NEW DEVELOPMENTS TONIGHT....WITH PLANS TO USE PART OF LANDMARK MALL AS A SHELTER. THE CARPENTER SHELTER WILL MOVE INTO THE OLD MACY'S SPACE SOMETIME IN LATE SPRING. AND THAT WILL BE ITS HOME UNTIL A 40-MILLION DOLLAR RENOVATION IS FINISHED. THAT SHOULD TAKE ABOUT TWO YEARS. THE SHELTER HELPS MORE THAN 600 HOMELESS CHILDREN AND ADULTS EACH YEAR.

3/1

MORTGAGE RATES CONTINUE TO SURGE THIS WEEK... THE AVERAGE 30-YEAR FIXED RATE LOAN TOPPING 4-POINT-4 PERCENT-- AND RISING STEADILY. THE COST OF BORROWING TO BUY A HOME HAS BEEN INCREASING SINCE THE HOLIDAY SEASON. WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE CHANGES IN JUST A FEW WEEKS, IT COULD BE THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS MORE TO BUY INTO AN EXPENSIVE HOUSING MARKET.

3/7

D.C. WARD EIGHT COUNCILMAN TRAYON WHITE IS UPSET ABOUT HIRING PRACTICES INVOLVING A DEVELOPMENT UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN SOUTHEAST. MAPLE FLATS IS A 50-MILLION DOLLAR PROJECT OWNED BY CHAPMAN DEVELOPMENT. THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO INCLUDE 114 AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS, RETAIL, AND PARKING. WHITE SAYS THE GENERAL CONTRACTOR, BOZZUTO, ISN'T HIRING ENOUGH SKILLED WORKERS FROM WARD EIGHT. WHITE WILL VOICE HIS DEMANDS DURING PROTESTS SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW AND FRIDAY. WE REACHED OUT TO BOZZUTO AND CHAPMAN DEVELOPMENT. WE HAVE NOT HEARD BACK.

3/12

THE PRESIDENT OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY IS APOLOGIZING AFTER SCOLDING A STUDENT, FOR ASKING HIM TO TAKE ACTION CONCERNING A POSSIBLE HOUSING SHORTAGE ON CAMPUS. KENDAL HALL SAYS SHE EMAILED PRESIDENT WAYNE FREDERICK ABOUT THE PROBLEM THAT SHE AND OTHER STUDENTS ARE FACING. FREDERICK EMAILED HER BACK-- CALLING THE TONE AND TENOR OF HER CORRESPONDENCE "INAPPROPRIATE". HOWARD UNIVERSITY ALSO CLAIMS THERE IS NO SHORTAGE. HALL WAS SO SHOCKED BY FREDERICK'S RESPONSE-- SHE SHARED THE EMAIL EXCHANGE ON TWITTER. THAT LEAD TO PROTESTS AND AN APOLOGY.

HEALTH & HEALTH CARE

1/3

A HEALTH ALERT NOW -- A FLU VACCINE IS IN THE WORKS - THAT COULD LAST *YEARS* RESEARCHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ARE WORKING ON A "UNIVERSAL FLU VACCINE" - KNOWN AS A D-N-A VACCINE. THE FLU VIRUS IS CONSTANTLY CHANGING - AND RIGHT NOW, SCIENTISTS HAVE TO GUESS HOW TO PROTECT YOU EACH YEAR. THE NEW VACCINE WILL TELL YOUR BODY TO CREATE ANTIBODIES TO FIGHT THE INFECTION. IT COULD BE AVAILABLE WITHIN THE NEXT DECADE!

1/11

SEVEN IS ON YOUR SIDE WITH HEALTH MATTERS -- AND A WARNING TO PREGNANT WOMEN ABOUT SOME ANTIBIOTICS USED TO TREAT URINARY TRACT INFECTIONS. WOMEN'S HEALTH EXPERTS SAY TWO OF THOSE DRUGS -- NITRO-FUR-ANTOIN AND SULFON-AMIDES (sull-FON-uh-mydes) -- CAN CAUSE BIRTH DEFECTS IF TAKEN DURING THE FIRST TRIMESTER. PREGNANT WOMEN SHOULD AVOID THOSE DRUGS WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

1/19

TO A 7 ON YOUR SIDE HEALTH ALERT... THE F-D-A CONSIDERING A NEW MESSAGE TO CIGARETTE MAKERS: CUT THE NICOTINE. THAT'S BEING DISCUSSED RIGHT NOW... AND IT WOULD MAKE CIGARETTES LESS ADDICTIVE... PERHAPS MAKING THEM BSOLETE. THE F-D-A WOULD ALLOW LOWER-RISK PRODUCTS THAT CONTAIN NICOTINE *WITHOUT* DEADLY EFFECTS.

1/29

SEVEN'S ON YOUR SIDE IN HEALTH MATTERS AND THE WORST FLU SEASON IN NINE YEARS. OVER THE WEEKEND -- A SEVEN YEAR OLD BOY DIED IN PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA. HIS PARENTS SAY HE HAD THE FLU AND STREP THROAT. EXPERTS SAY PARENTS SHOULD BE TEACHING THEIR KIDS WHAT TO LOOK FOR -- AND WHO TO TALK TO IF THEY FEEL SICK. ENTIRE SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAVE CLOSED IN SIX STATES BECAUSE OF FEARS ABOUT THE FLU. EXPERTS SAY YOUR BEST DEFENSE IS TO GET A FLU SHOT. AND THE FREDERICK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS GIVING A FREE VACCINATION CLINIC FOR KIDS BETWEEN THE AGES OF SIX MONTHS AND 17 YEARS TONIGHT. IT RUNS UNTIL SIX-30 AT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT ON MONTEVUE LANE. WE HAVE ALL THAT INFORMATION FOR YOU IN THE STORY ON THE ABC7 NEWS APP.

1/30

A SHAKE-UP AT THE C-D-C. THE ORGANIZATION'S DIRECTOR -- RESIGNING OVER FINANCIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST. POLITICO REPORTS -- DOCTOR BRENDA FITZGERALD BOUGHT SHARES IN JAPAN TOBACCO AND DRUG COMPANIES BAYER AND MERCK... *AFTER SHE TOOK THE JOB. SHE WAS APPOINTED BY FORMER HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SECRETARY TOM

PRICE. HE RESIGNED BACK IN SEPTEMBER OVER HIS COSTLY TRAVEL ON CHARTERED PLANES.

2/9

A MEDICAL EMERGENCY AT YORKTOWN HIGH SCHOOL THIS MORNING. OFFICIALS PUTTING THE SCHOOL IN A SECURE BUILDING STATUS. A STUDENT COLLAPSED IN A BATHROOM AND WAS SENT TO VIRGINIA HOSPITAL CENTER. THE STUDENT'S CONDITION IS UNKNOWN.

2/19

DOCTORS AT CHILDREN'S NATIONAL IN WASHINGTON -- HELPING DETECT AND TREAT HEART PROBLEMS IN BABIES... BEFORE THEY'RE EVEN BORN!

BRADY THOMPSON WAS BORN BY C-SECTION IN SEPTEMBER AT 37 WEEKS... AFTER DOCTORS NOTICED HER HEARTBEAT WAS SLOWING. SHE HAD BEEN GIVEN STEROIDS AND A TRANSFUSION TO PROTECT HER HEART IN THE WOMB. THEN -- SURGEONS GAVE HER THE SMALLEST PACEMAKER AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET. HER MOTHER -- FINALLY ABLE TO HOLD HER A DAY LATER.

2/23

A NEW PROPOSAL TO HELP PROTECT MARYLAND STUDENTS' *SKIN. THE STATE SENATE HAS PASSED A BILL ALLOWING KIDS TO USE SUNSCREEN AT SCHOOL *WITHOUT A DOCTOR'S NOTE. RIGHT NOW -- SUNSCREEN IS CONSIDERED A MEDICATION, SO IT NEEDS A NOTE FROM A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL TO BE USED IN SCHOOLS. A SIMILAR BILL IS MAKING ITS WAY THROUGH THE HOUSE. GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN -- WHO WAS RECENTLY TREATED FOR SKIN CANCER -- SAYS HE SUPPORTS THE LEGISLATION.

3/1

DOCTORS ARE TEAMING UP WITH UBER... TO MAKE SURE YOU GET TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE. MILLIONS OF MISSED APPOINTMENTS ARE BLAMED ON PEOPLE... NOT BEING ABLE TO SIMPLY GET THERE. "UBER HEALTH" IS NOW WORKING WITH HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS... TO SCHEDULE RIDES FOR PATIENTS WHO NEED THEM... WITH THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE FOOTING THE BILL. AT LEAST A HUNDRED HEALTH CARE ORGANIZATIONS ARE ON BOARD-- FROM HOSPITALS TO REHAB CENTERS AND SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES.

3/10

DOCTORS ARE TEAMING UP WITH UBER... TO MAKE SURE YOU GET TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE. MILLIONS OF MISSED APPOINTMENTS ARE BLAMED ON PEOPLE... NOT BEING ABLE TO SIMPLY GET THERE. "UBER HEALTH" IS NOW WORKING WITH HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS... TO SCHEDULE RIDES FOR PATIENTS WHO NEED THEM... WITH THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE FOOTING THE BILL. AT LEAST A HUNDRED HEALTH CARE ORGANIZATIONS ARE ON BOARD-- FROM HOSPITALS TO REHAB CENTERS AND SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES.

3/28

SEVEN'S ON YOUR SIDE WITH HEALTH MATTERS-- AND POSSIBLE CHANGES... WHEN IT COMES TO DETECTING CERVICAL CANCER. RIGHT NOW -- GUIDELINES RECOMMEND TESTING FOR WOMEN, UP TO AGE 65... AND BECAUSE OF THAT, MANY INSURANCES WON'T COVER TESTING FOR WOMEN *OLDER THAN THAT. BUT A NEW STUDY FOUND ONE OUT OF EVERY FIVE WOMEN... DIAGNOSED WITH CERVICAL CANCER -- ARE IN THAT OLDER AGE GROUP. RESEARCHERS NOW SAY -- THOSE GUIDELINES SHOULD BE REVISED.

RACIAL, ETHIC, RELIGIOUS & SEX

1/17

NOW - A SEVEN ON YOUR SIDE CONSUMER ALERT - AMID BACKLASH - H-AND-M IS NOW HIRING A DIVERSITY LEADER. THE RETAILER - ACCUSED OF RACISM OVER AN AD SHOWING A BLACK CHILD WEARING A HOODIE THAT SAYS - "COOLEST MONKEY IN THE JUNGLE. H-AND-M SAID IT WAS "UNINTENTIONAL". SEVERAL CELEBRITIES HAVE CUT TIES WITH THE CLOTHING COMPANY.

1/23

EMOTIONS BOILING OVER IN LOUDOUN COUNTY. K-K-K FLIERS, FOUND IN SEVERAL NORTHERN VIRGINIA NEIGHBORHOODS. AND NOW COMMUNITY LEADERS ARE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHETHER THIS IS A CRIME-- OR A CASE OF *LEGAL* HATE SPEECH. BUT AT A MEETING LAST NIGHT IN LEESBURG, RESIDENTS SAY THEY WANT SOMETHING DONE *NOW* -- SAYING THESE FLIERS MAKE SOME FAMILIES FEAR FOR THEIR LIVES. THE FBI IS ALSO INVESTIGATING THE FLIERS, AND SAYS IF THEY *DO* CONSTITUTE A CRIME, THEY'LL PROSECUTE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT.

1/25

NOW TO THE OPIOID CRISIS IN AMERICA... WHICH IS CREATING CONTROVERSY HERE AT HOME. THE DISTRICT - LAUNCHING A CAMPAIGN BASED ON THE "FOXY BROWN" CHARACTER PLAYED BY PAM GRIER IN 1970s. THESE POSTERS PROMOTE "NALOXONE" -- WHICH REVERSES OVERDOSES. BUT -- SINCE MORE VICTIMS NATIONWIDE ARE WHITE -- SOME PEOPLE QUESTION THE NEED FOR THESE POSTERS. D-C HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY THE CAMPAIGN IS AIMED AT BLACK MEN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 40 AND 60 -- WHO WOULD PROBABLY REMEMBER "FOXY BROWN" -- AND WHO REPRESENT 80 PERCENT OF OVERDOSES IN D-C.

2/12

AND A LOCAL ATHELETE MAKING HISTORY AT THE 20-18 WINTER GAMES.. 18-YEAR-OLD "MAAME BINEY" FROM RESTON, VIRGINIA HAS BECOME THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN TO MAKE THE SHORT TRACK SPEEDSKATING TEAM. SHE'LL COMPETE IN THE SEMI-FINALS OF THE 500 METERS TOMORROW. BINEY LEFT GHANA AT JUST FIVE YEARS OLD TO COME LIVE IN THE U-S.

2/15

CELEBRATIONS ARE PLANNED ACROSS THE AREA THIS WEEKEND TO MARK FREDERICK DOUGLASS' 200TH BIRTHDAY NOW THE SMITHSONIAN AFRICAN ART MUSEUM IS GIVING US A NEW LOOK AT THE FAMOUS ABOLITIONIST. ABC7 WAS ALLOWED INSIDE THE MUSEUM'S ARCHIVES ROOM WHERE THERE ARE 4 RARE SILK SCREEN PRINTS OF DOUGLASS BY FAMED ARTIST BEN SHAHN.

JUST THIS WEEK MARYLAND GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN DECLARED 2018 THE
*YEAR OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

2/28

THE N-B-A CHAMPION GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS.. SKIPPING A VISIT TO
THE WHITE HOUSE, AND INSTEAD HANGING OUT WITH D-C STUDENTS. AS
WE TOLD YOU FIRST ON GOOD MORNING WASHINGTON... THE TEAM TOOK THE
KIDS ON A FIELD TRIP TO THE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MUSUEM. THE
WARRIORS SAY IT'S NOT ABOUT POLITICS.. BUT INSTEAD IS ABOUT
SPENDING TIME WITH KIDS AND TEACHING LIFE LESSONS.

3/1

AN UPDATE TONIGHT - IN THE FIGHT OVER THE 40-FOOT CROSS IN PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY. A FEDERAL APPEALS COURT DENIED A REQUEST
FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION AND OTHER SUPPORTERS, TO RECONSIDER
IT'S RULING. LAST OCTOBER - IT RULED THE BLADENSBURG PEACE
CROSS - A WORLD WAR ONE MEMORIAL - SHOULD BE MOVED - SAYING IT
"ENTANGLES THE GOVERNMENT IN RELIGION." SUPPORTERS OF THE CROSS,
WHICH SITS ON PUBLIC LAND- PLAN TO TAKE THEIR FIGHT TO THE SUPREME
COURT.

3/8

ALL BUT TWO SMITHSONIANS CLOSED FOR TODAY'S WEATHER.
AND THE LINES WERE OUT THE DOOR! LOOK AT THE PEOPLE WAITING IN
HEAVY SNOWFALL TO GET INTO THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN
HISTORY. JUST ACROSS THE STREET--- THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN
AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE LETTING EVERYONE IN WITHOUT TIMED
ENTRY PASSES TODAY.

3/30

50 YEARS AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR... HAS
AMERICA CHANGED? ACCORDING TO AN A-P POLL: ONE-IN-10 AFRICAN-
AMERICANS THINK THE U.S. HAS ACHIEVED ALL OR MOST OF THE CIVIL
RIGHTS MOVEMENT'S GOALS... COMPARED TO 35 PERCENT OF WHITE'S
POLLED. 75 PERCENT OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS POLLED SAY THERE'S BEEN
LITTLE OR NO PROGRESS WHEN IT COMES TO FAIR TREATMENT BY POLICE.

AND MORE THAN HALF SAY THE MEDIA DOES NOT OFFER FAIR
COVERAGE OF RACE IN AMERICA.

EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMY

1/4

DESPITE A *STRONG HOLIDAY SALES SEASON FOR MACY'S-- IT'S MOVING FORWARD WITH PLANS TO CUT 5-THOUSAND JOBS... AND CLOSE SEVERAL MORE STORES THIS YEAR. THIS IS PART OF A PLAN THAT WENT INTO PLACE BACK IN 20-16-- THAT INCLUDED CLOSING 100 STORES OVERALL. FOR THE ONES THAT WILL BE SHUTTING DOWN-- LIQUIDATION SALES START IN LESS THAN A WEEK.

1/11

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ARE LOSING THEIR JOBS -- AS WAL-MART IS CLOSING 63 SAM'S CLUB STORES NATIONWIDE. ONE STORE NEAR BALTIMORE HAS ALREADY SHUT DOWN -- BUT IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ANY D-C AREA STORES WILL BE CLOSING. SOME EMPLOYEES *ONLY LEARNED OF THE MOVE WHEN THEY SHOWED UP FOR WORK TODAY. THE COMPANY SAYS IT'S CLOSING THE STORES BECAUSE THEY AREN'T GENERATING ENOUGH SALES.

1/23

NORTHERN VIRGINIA... D-C... AND MONTGOMERY COUNTY ALL MADE AMAZON'S "TOP 20" LIST FOR ITS SECOND HEADQUARTERS. AND MARYLAND IS PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS TO WIN. GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN HAS UNVEILED THE "PRIME ACT." THE LEGISLATION INCLUDES THREE *BILLION DOLLARS IN GRANTS AND TAX INCENTIVES... AND A TWO-BILLION DOLLAR INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT. IN RETURN--- THE STATE WANTS 40-THOUSAND JOBS WITH 100-THOUSAND DOLLAR SALARIES -- OVER THE NEXT SEVENTEEN YEARS.

2/1

HAPPENING TODAY. A RECRUITMENT CENTER OPENING UP FOR THE NEW MARYLAND LIVE CASINO HOTEL AT ARUNDEL MILLS. THIS - ALL AHEAD OF THE SPRING OPENING OF THE HOTEL BEING BUILT DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM THE CASINO. RECRUITERS PLAN TO FILL 500 POSITIONS AND WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST WITH ONLINE APPLICATIONS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE HIRING PROCESS.

2/2

ELSEWHERE IN MARYLAND-- BIG NEWS FROM GIANT FOOD. THE GROCERY CHAIN IS MOVING IT'S HEADQUARTERS BACK TO LANDOVER. THE MOVE MEANS 220 JOBS WILL BE BROUGHT TO PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. SOME EMPLOYEES WILL TRANSFER FROM THE CURRENT HEADQUARTERS IN CARLISLE, ENNSYLVANIA, WHILE 78 OF THE JOBS ARE EXPECTED TO BE NEW HIRES IN MARYLAND.

2/14

MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S FIRE CHIEF -- TAKING A HARD LINE AGAINST HARASSMENT. THIS AFTER FEMALE CUSTODIANS SAID THEY FACED LEWD... SEXUAL... EVEN RACIST COMMENTS -- ON THE JOB AT FIRE STATIONS. THE MEMO SENT FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS ISSUES INCLUDING OFF-PUTTING BODY LANGUAGE ... OPINIONS REGARDING DACA AND VULGAR REMARKS. SIX OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S 37 FIREHOUSES HAVE CUSTODIAL CREWS ON CONTRACT. THE DEPARTMENT ISN'T SAYING WHERE THE COMPLAINTS ARE COMING FROM.

2/23

HAPPENING TODAY...ANOTHER DAY OFF FOR MORE THAN 350-THOUSAND STUDENTS IN WEST VIRGINIA. PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACROSS THE STATE HAVE BEEN CLOSED SINCE THURSDAY WHEN TEACHERS WALKED OFF THE JOB.

THEY WANT HIGHER PAY AND BETTER BENEFITS. WEST VIRGINIA RANKS 48TH IN THE COUNTRY IN TERMS OF TEACHER PAY. NO INDICATION YET IF SCHOOLS WILL REOPEN ON MONDAY.

3/5

IT APPEARS AMAZON IS TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT BRINGING ITS SECOND HEADQUARTERS TO OUR AREA. LAST WEEK, AMAZON OFFICIALS TOURED SITES IN THE DISTRICT, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, AND NORTHERN VIRGINIA. AMAZON IS CONSIDERING A TOTAL OF NINE SITES IN OUR AREA. THE GOVERNORS OF MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA HAVE OFFERED AMAZON FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO LOCATE HERE.

3/9

AT LEAST ONE WEST VIRGINIA COUNTY IS CANCELING SPRING BREAK TO MAKE UP THE DAYS MISSED DURING THE NINE DAY TEACHER WALKOUT. THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT HAS TOLD ALL COUNTIES THE DAYS MUST BE MADE UP. NOW THEY HAVE TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO DO THAT. THE EASTERN PANHANDLE COUNTIES IN OUR AREA HAVE NOT DECIDED HOW THEY WILL DO THAT YET.

3/12

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE AND DATA ANALYTICS FIRM "MICRO-STRATEGY" WILL KEEP ITS HEADQUARTERS IN TYSONS. THE COMPANY SAYS IT ALSO PLANS TO ADD 300 POSITIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. "MICRO-STRATEGY" WAS LOOKING FOR A NEW HEADQUARTERS -- BUT IS STAYING IN TYSONS, DUE IN PART, TO A MILLION DOLLAR GRANT FROM VIRGINIA'S "OPPORTUNITY FUND".

3/27

COVERING METRO THIS MORNING. MARYLAND IS SET TO TAKE A BIG STEP TOWARD PROVIDING NEW FUNDING FOR THE RAIL SYSTEM. TODAY MARYLAND SENATE'S BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE WILL HEAR THE STATE'S METRO FUNDING BILL. GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN SAYS HE WILL

SUPPORT THE BILL THAT WOULD PROVIDE THE STATE'S 167-MILLION DOLLAR SHARE OF THE 500 MILLION DOLLARS IN NEW DEDICATED FUNDING FOR METRO.

3/29

NEW THIS MORNING, BY A SLIM MARGIN..MARYLAND GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN'S PLAN TO LURE AMAZON'S SECOND HEADQUARTERS TO THE STATE MOVES FORWARD. HOGAN'S INCENTIVE PACAKGE RECIEVED EXACTLY THE 12 VOTES NEEDED FOR THE HOUSE COMMITTEE'S APPROVAL. THE 5 BILLION DOLLAR PACKAGE WOULD GIVE THE STATE AN ADVANTAGE OVER OTHERS TRYING TO LURE THE SECOND HEADQUARTERS AND ITS ANTICIPATED 50-THOUSAND JOBS TO THE STATE. AMAZON EXPECTS TO MAKE A DECISION BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

EDUCATION

1/1

THE VIRGINIA LOTTERY IS READY TO PUT THE SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION IN THE NEW YEAR. TOMORROW IT'S LAUNCHING A "THANK A TEACHER" ART CONTEST FOR VIRGINIA K-THROUGH-12 STUDENTS. THE IDEA IS FOR KIDS TO DESIGN THANK YOU CARDS THAT WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THOUSANDS OF TEACHERS IN MAY FOR TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK. THREE WINNERS WILL GET 150 DOLLAR GIFT CARDS AND A THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THEIR SCHOOL'S ART DEPARTMENTS.

1/16

FINDINGS FROM AN INDEPENDENT AUDIT... INTO ALLEGATIONS OF GRADE FIXING - WILL BE ON MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER'S DESK BY THIS MORNING. IT COMES AFTER A "SEVEN ON YOUR SIDE" INVESTIGATION REVEALED... STUDENTS GRADUATING -- DESPITE MISSING AS MANY AS 150 DAYS OF SCHOOL! MAYOR BOWSER IS HOLDING A NEWS CONFERENCE AT ELEVEN THIS MORNING WITH THE D-C-P-S SCHOOLS CHANCELLOR. WE WILL HAVE COMPLETE COVERAGE ON A-B-C SEVEN NEWS.

1/29

THE PRINCIPAL OF DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL IN NORTHWEST D-C IS ON ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE TONIGHT. THIS AFTER AN AUDIT FOUND FOUR-THOUSAND INSTANCES OF ALTERED ATTENDANCE RECORDS AT THAT SCHOOL. SOME OF THE CHANGES TOOK PLACE DAYS, EVEN WEEKS AFTER THE ABSENCES IN QUESTION.

D-C PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHANCELLOR ANTWAN WILSON SAID THE ISSUE GOES WELL BEYOND INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS. THE AUDIT ALSO FOUND 34-PERCENT OF D-C STUDENTS GRADUATED LAST YEAR BECAUSE THEY BENEFITED FROM GRADE AND ATTENDANCE MANIPULATION. SINCE THE SCANDAL BEGAN -
- THE PRINCIPAL OF BALLOU HIGH SCHOOL, ITS VICE PRINCIPAL AND THE DISTRICT'S SECONDARY SCHOOLS CHIEF HAVE ALL BEEN REMOVED FROM THEIR POSTS.

2/5

TODAY MARKS THE START OF "BLACK LIVES MATTER WEEK OF ACTION" IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SCHOOLS. STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL LEARN AND DISCUSS THE MOVEMENT. THE WEEK OF ACTION STARTED BY TEACHERS, PARENTS AND ADMINISTRATORS IS INTENDED TO HELP IMPROVE THE SCHOOL EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS OF COLOR

2/16

ALSO BREAKING RIGHT NOW... D-C SCHOOLS CHANCELLOR ANTWAN WILSON, APOLOGIZING FOR NOT FOLLOWING PROPER PROCEDURES WHEN HE MOVED HIS CHILD FROM ONE HIGH SCHOOL TO ANOTHER. BECAUSE OF THIS, MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER JUST ANNOUNCED THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR

EDUCATION HAS RESIGNED. SEVEN ON YOUR SIDE'S NATHAN BACA IS WITH THE MAYOR RIGHT NOW, AND WILL HAVE MORE DETAILS ON THIS AFTER HE TALKS TO HER.

2/21

ALSO HAPPENING TODAY - MORE LOCAL PROTESTS. STUDENTS AT RICHARD MONTGOMERY HIGH SCHOOL PLAN TO WALK OUT OF CLASS AND METRO TO DOWNTOWN DC TO PROTEST AT THE CAPITOL. MEANWHILE STUDENTS IN FAIRFAX COUNTY PLAN TO WALK OUT OF ROCKY RUN MIDDLE SCHOOL AT NOON AND STAY OUTSIDE FOR 17 MINUTES.. ONE MINUTE FOR EACH OF THOSE KILLED IN FLORIDA. STUDENTS FROM BOTH SCHOOLS ARE CALLING FOR STRICTER GUN CONTROL LAWS.

2/28

WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOLS WILL BE BACK IN SESSION TOMORROW. IT WILL BE THE FIRST TIME IN A WEEK KIDS WILL BE IN CLASS -- AFTER TEACHERS WALKED OUT, CALLING FOR HIGHER WAGES AND BETTER INSURANCE. A DEAL WAS STRUCK LAST NIGHT TO STOP THE PROTEST.

3/8

MORE TROUBLE INVOLVING PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SCHOOLS. THIS COMING AFTER A GRADUATION RATE SCANDAL. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS SENT A LETTER TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE... IT CLAIMS SEVERAL EMPLOYEES AT SCHOOL HEADQUARTERS GOT *MASSIVE PAY RAISES -- THAT WEREN'T AUTHORIZED! WE'RE TALKING TEN TO TWELVE PERCENT, WITHOUT ANYONE KNOWING!

3/13

RIGHT NOW, SCHOOLS ACROSS DC, MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA -- GETTING READY FOR A DAY OF STUDENT PROTESTS. *TOMORROW* MARKS ONE MONTH SINCE THE DEADLY SHOOTING AT STONEMAN DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL -- AND OUR AREA IS GETTING READY FOR STUDENTS TO TAKE PART IN NATIONAL "WALK OUTS" IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE VICTIMS. SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAVE VARYING POLICIES, WHICH YOU CAN SEE ON THE SIDE OF YOUR SCREEN HERE. SUZANNE KENNEDY IS OUT RIGHT NOW AT MONTGOMERY BLAIR, WHICH HELD A WALKOUT LAST MONTH. WE'RE CHECKING IN WITH HER IN THE NEXT HALF-HOUR OF GOOD MORNING WASHINGTON.

3/16

BEFORE THE BEST SPELLERS IN THE NATION DUKE IT OUT AT THE SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE-- STUDENTS HAVE TO PROVE THEMSELVES IN THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES. AND FOR TOP-NOTCH SPELLERS IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY-- TODAY IS THE DAY. WINNERS FROM 34 MIDDLE SCHOOLS WILL COMPETE FOR THE HONOR OF TOP SPELLER AT THE 2018 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SPELLING BEE, TODAY. THE BEE IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

IT STARTS TODAY AT 7 PM, AT THE CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER IN COLLEGE PARK.

3/29

MORE FLEXIBILITY MAY BE COMING SOON TO THE CALENDERS FOR MARYLAND SCHOOL DISTRICTS. THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES GAVE FINAL APPROVAL TO A PLAN ALLOWING DISTRICTS TO EXTEND THE SCHOOL YEAR FIVE DAYS PAST THE GOVERNOR'S MID-JUNE CUTOFF. SCHOOL OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN CALLING FOR MORE FLEXIBILITY IN CREATING CALENDERS SINCE GOVERNOR HOGAN ORDERED THEM TO OPEN SCHOOLS AFTER LABOR DAY. NOW THE MEASURE HEADS BACK TO THE SENATE.

FAMILY ISSUES

1/2

THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION COULD INCLUDE WHAT'S CALLED "GAMING DISORDER" ON ITS LIST OF MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS THIS YEAR. THAT'S AS A PART OF WHAT'S CONSIDERED AN "ADDICTIVE" BEHAVIOR. SOME EXPERTS DISAGREE WITH LABELING THE ADDICTION OT GAMES A DISORDER. ACCORDING TO SOME RECENT RESEARCH, NEARLY 9-PERCENT OF CHILDREN WHO PLAY VIDEO GAMES IN THE U.S... ARE ADDICTED.

1/12

SEVEN ON YOUR SIDE NOW WITH A SCARY INCIDENT THAT HAPPENED AT A SCHOOL IN BURKE. A KINDERGARTEN STUDENT SERVED CHOCOLATE MILK AT LUNCH-- BUT WHEN HE TOOK A SIP, HE KNEW SOMETHING WAS VERY WRONG. 6 YEAR OLD PARKER TOOTILL ALERTED THE STAFF AT NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL, AND THEY PULLED ALL THE MILK FROM THEIR LUNCHES.

IT TURNS OUT THE SCHOOL HAD RECIEVED MILK ACCIDENTALLY TAINTED WITH A CHEMICAL USED TO CLEAN PROCESSING EQUIPMENT. SEVERAL CHILDREN DRANK THAT MILK AND ONE FELL ILL. PARKER'S MOTHER EVENTUALLY CALLED THE MANUFACTUER, LEHIGH VALLEY, WHO OFFERED TO COMPENSATE HER.

THE COMPANY SAYS OPERATOR ERROR LEAD TO THE TAINTED MILK SHIPMENT AND IT IS RETRAINING ITS STAFF. THE SCHOOL IS NO LONGER DOING BUSINESS WITH LEHIGH VALLEY. WE CHECKED AND ACCORDING TO ECOLAB, A WORLD LEADER IN FOOD SAFETY, WHEN THAT LIQUID IS DILUTED IT SHOULDN'T HURT ANYONE IF INGESTED.

1/19

A SEVEN ON YOUR SIDE SCAM ALERT. THE F-B-I SAYS A FRIGHTENING SCAM IS ON THE RISE - VIRTUAL KIDNAPPING. METROPOLITAN POLICE TELL SEVEN ON YOUR SIDE THEY HAVE SEEN AN UP-TICK IN THE CRIME SINCE THE HOLIDAYS, SPECIFICALLY TARGETING D-C'S HISPANIC COMMUNITY. SO WHAT IS "VIRTUAL KIDNAPPING"? IT'S AN EXTORTION SCAM WHERE VICTIMS ARE TRICKED INTO PAYING RANSOM TO FREE A LOVED ONE THEY BELIEVE WILL BE HARMED OR KILLED - WHEN IN FACT THAT PERSON IS SAFE NATIONWIDE, FAMILIES ARE FALLING VICTIM TO THEIR SCARY TACTICS. THE F-B-I SAYS THAT IF YOU DO GET A PHONE CALL LIKE THIS, THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION IS TO HANG UP THE PHONE.

1/25

ONLY ON ABC 7... THE PARENTS OF A TODDLER WHO *DROWNED* AT AN IN-HOME DAY CARE LAST SUMMER DISTRAUGHT-- THAT NO ONE IS IN TROUBLE. FIVE CHILDREN, INCLUDING STOKELY ANDREWS, WERE ALONE OUTSIDE WITH A SPLASH POOL IN THE SMALL D-C YARD. THE MEDICAL EXAMINER RULED THE

DEATH ACCIDENTAL. CRIMINAL CHARGES ARE *NOT* BEING PURSUED AT THIS TIME.

2/5

THE COST OF A NEW PASSPORT IS GOING UP. BEGINNING APRIL 2ND, YOU'LL PAY AN EXTRA TEN-DOLLARS IN PROCESSING FEES. TRADITIONAL PASSPORTS WILL BE 145-DOLLARS. WHILE PASSPORTS FOR CHILDREN 16 AND YOUNGER WILL BE 115-DOLLARS. FEES FOR PASSPORT CARDS ARE ALSO GOING UP. THE COST OF RENEWING YOUR PASSPORT BY MAIL STAYS THE SAME.

2/15

A GUIDANCE COUNSELOR AT SHERWOOD HIGH SCHOOL IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY IS NOW ON ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE, FACING DRUG CHARGES. ERIN MCKENNA.. ARRESTED FEBRUARY FIRST AT THE MASON INN, IN NORTHWEST D.C. POLICE SAY AT A VENDOR TABLE... SHE HAD: 102 ASSORTED EDIBLES.. FIVE CAPSULES CONTAINING A BROWN LIQUID.. AND TWO GLASS JARS FILLED WITH MARIJUANA. A RESIDENT WHO WAS THERE WHEN MCKENNA WAS ARRESTED SAYS HIS THOUGHTS ARE WITH SHERWOOD HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS. MCKENNA WAS CHARGED WITH POSSESSION WITH THE INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE. SHE WASN'T PLACED ON ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE UNTIL YESTERDAY.. NEARLY TWO WEEKS AFTER HER ARREST.

2/22

SEVEN'S ON YOUR SIDE WITH HEALTH MATTERS THIS MORNING-- AND A NEW VACCINE TO PREVENT HEPATITIS B. FOR DECADES, SHOTS TO PREVENT THE DISEASE HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO CHILDREN. BUT THIS NEW ONE -- IS FOR ADULTS. EXPERTS SAY HEPATITIS B CASES HAVE BEEN ON THE RISE AS THE HEROIN AND OPIOID EPIDEMIC GROWS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THE NEW VACCINE IS GIVEN AS TWO SHOTS OVER THE COURSE OF A MONTH.

3/9

SEVEN IS ON YOUR SIDE WITH A CONSUMER ALERT.. AND DISAPPOINTING NEWS FOR A LOT OF PARENTS AND CHILDREN, ACROSS THE COUNTRY. TOYS-R-US IS GOING OUT OF BUSINESS FOR GOOD. THE COMPANY IS PREPARING FOR LIQUIDATION. IT FAILED TO FIND A BUYER - OR SECURE A DEBT RE-STRUCTURING DEAL, WITH ITS LENDERS. THE CHAIN FILED FOR BANKRUPTCY BACK IN SEPTEMBER. STORES MAY START CLOSING -- AS SOON AS NEXT WEEK!

3/16

GROUNDBREAKING NEW TECHNOLOGY IS CONNECTING BABIES IN NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNITS WITH THEIR PARENTS. GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL HAS SPECIAL CAMERAS ABOVE THE BABIES THAT PROVIDE PARENTS WITH A CONSTANT VIEW. THE PARENTS CAN LOG ON TO THEIR HOME COMPUTER, LAPTOP, OR CELL PHONE, AND SEE THEIR BABY 24-

SEVEN. ANDREA PAYNE AND SCOTT MCNICHOLS HAVE A BABY, SAGE, WHO WAS BORN TWO MONTHS PREMATURE. SHE'S IN THE NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT AT GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL. THE PARENTS VISIT HER EVERY NIGHT. BUT THEY LIVE MILES AWAY, IN WALDORF. THEY'RE GRATEFUL TO BE ABLE TO KEEP AN EYE ON HER.. WHEN THEY CAN'T BE AT THE HOSPITAL.

3/23

POLICE ARE SEARCHING FOR BURGLARS WHO MANAGED TO GET INSIDE FIVE HOMES IN NORTH BETHESDA, AND STEAL ITEMS. THE INCIDENTS ALL HAPPENED LAST WEEK, WITHIN AN 11 HOUR PERIOD. SURVEILLANCE VIDEO SHOWS TWO SUSPECTS INSIDE ONE OF THE HOMES. AS THEY WERE RUMMAGING THROUGH THE HOUSE, A WOMAN WAS INSIDE PUTTING HER TWO CHILDREN TO BED. IN ANOTHER INCIDENT, A HOUSE GUEST'S PURSE WAS STOLEN WHILE SHE WAS JUST FEET AWAY.

ELDERLY & AGING

1/1

BREAKING NEWS JUST COMING IN FROM ANNANDALE, FIRE CREWS TELLING US IN THE PAST FIVE MINUTES THAT THIS FIRE ON COLUMBIA ROAD -- HAS NOW TURNED DEADLY. THEY SAY AN ELDERLY MAN WHO WAS HURT IN THAT FIRE -- HAS NOW DIED. WE DON'T YET KNOW WHAT STARTED THIS, BUT WE DO HAVE CREWS ON THE SCENE ASKING QUESTIONS. AS SOON AS WE GET MORE WE'LL LET YOU KNOW HERE ON AIR -- AND ON OUR FREE ABC7 NEWS APP.

1/22

HAPPENING THIS MORNING-- A MARYLAND COUPLE CONVICTED OF STEALING MORE THAN A MILLION DOLLARS FROM AN ELDERLY MAN-- WILL LEARN THEIR FATE. POLICE SAT JAVIER AND BETI MOLINA WORKED FOR GUSTAVE SHAPIRO WHO WAS SUFFERING FROM DEMENTIA. THEY USED THE STOLEN MONEY TO BUY A HOUSE, A CAR, SEND THEIR DAUGHTER TO COLLEGE, AND GAMBLER AWAY MORE THAN 200-THOUSAND DOLLARS. THE MOLINAS COULD FACE UP TO 55 YEARS IN PRISON.

1/31

83-YEAR-OLD JOSEPH PARKER SENIOR SAYS HE FIRST THOUGHT THE RUSTLING SOUNDS WERE COMING FROM AN ANIMAL BUT THEN HEARD DOORS BEING FORCED OPEN. PARKER SAYS IT WAS AROUND MIDNIGHT WHEN HE TOOK A GUN OUT FROM UNDER HIS PILLOW IN CASE THE INTRUDER CAME TO HIS BEDROOM. WHEN THE MAN DRESSED IN ALL BLACK OPENED THE DOOR PARKER SAYS HE FIRED FEARING FOR HIS LIFE. PARKER SAYS HE DOESN'T REMEMBER HOW MANY TIMES HE SHOT AT THE INTRUDER BUT POLICE TOLD HIM THEY FOUND THREE BULLET SHELLS. THE SUSPECT RAN AWAY BUT WAS FOUND ABOUT AN HOUR LATER. THAT MAN IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION.

2/6

IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY.. THREE MEN ARE CONVICTED OF STEALING GUNS, JEWELRY AND CREDIT CARDS. IN EACH CASE, TARGETING SENIOR CITIZENS! ONE MAN HAD HIS VALUABLE PRESIDENTIAL COINS STOLEN... BUT THE THIEVES MADE OFF WITH SOMETHING OF EVEN GREATER VALUE THAT BELONGED TO HIS WIFE. TODAY -- THE MAN POLICE SAY WAS THE RINGLEADER OF THE CRIME SPREE WAS SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS IN PRISON. PROSECUTORS SAY HE WOULD BREAK INTO HOMES, STEAL THINGS... AND THEN PAWN THEM. THE TWO OTHER MEN INVOLVED IN THE CRIME RING HAVE PLEADED GUILTY.

2/12

BREAKING OVERNIGHT, A SAD UPDATE FROM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. AN ELDERLY WOMAN IS DEAD AFTER HER TOWNHOUSE CAUGHT FIRE. THIS HAPPENED LAST NIGHT AROUND 11:15 ON NORTH HIL MAR CIRCLE IN DISTRICT

HEIGHTS. CREWS TELL US THEY ARRIVED TO FIND HEAVY FLAMES COMING FROM THAT HOME. THEY PULLED AN 84-YEAR-OLD WOMAN OUT FROM INSIDE, AND STARTED CPR. BUT SHE LATER DIED AT THE HOSPITAL. INVESTIGATORS SAY THERE WERE NO WORKING SMOKE DETECTORS IN THE HOUSE. SO FAR, NO WORD WHAT MIGHT HAVE STARTED THE FIRE.

2/28

VIRGINIA TECH WILL LEAD A STUDY ON AMERICA'S AGING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE. THE FIVE-YEAR PROJECT WILL FOCUS ON RELIABILITY -- WITH RESEARCHERS STUDYING PIPELINES OF DIFFERENT MATERIALS -- THEIR COSTS AND LIFESPANS.

3/14

A FAMILY IN ACCOKEEK, MARYLAND IS DISPLACED THIS MORNING AFTER A LARGE FIRE CONSUMED THEIR HOME. IT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT AT THE 14-THOUSAND BLOCK OF CACTUS HILL ROAD. THE SITUATION WAS SO DANGEROUS THAT FIREFIGHTERS WERE EVEN TOLD TO *EVACUATE THE BUILDING AND FIGHT THE FLAMES FROM THE OUTSIDE. FORTUNATELY, THE ELDERLY COUPLE LIVING INSIDE WAS ABLE TO ESCAPE. A CAUSE IS STILL UNKNOWN.

3/22

SHOCKING VIDEO, FLAMES - SWALLOWING A MOUNT RAINIER HOME. THE ELDERLY COUPLE WHO LIVED INSIDE - KILLED. FIREFIGHTERS SAY -- BOARDING CONDITIONS MADE IT ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO FIGHT THE FIRE. IN ADDITION -- THE HOME DID *NOT HAVE WORKING SMOKE DETECTORS. SO FAR THIS YEAR IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY -- SIX PEOPLE HAVE DIED IN FIRES - IN HOMES WITHOUT WORKING SMOKE DETECTORS. IF YOU CAN'T AFFORD A SMOKE DETECTOR -- THE COUNTY WILL GIVE YOU ONE, FREE.